

THE RETIREMENT OF GEN. JOHN  
M. SHALIKASHVILI

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 30, 1997*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, after 39 years of outstanding service the military career of Gen. John Shalikashvili will come to a close today. In my role as a cochairman of the bipartisan National Security Caucus [NSC] I had the honor and pleasure of presiding at a retirement ceremony for the General last week. I was joined by my fellow NSC cochairman, Senator CHARLES ROBB (D-VA), as well as Senator JACK REED (D-RI) and Representative JANE HARMAN (D-CA).

Rather than saying "farewell," the caucus organized this event to say "well done" to General Shalikashvili. He is truly deserving of this recognition because of his tremendous contributions to America's national security interests, and his life is a classic American success story.

General Shalikashvili was born in Warsaw, Poland, in 1936. He was the first foreign-born Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the first draftee to become Chairman and the first Chairman who was a graduate of Officer Candidate School.

During his military career, General Shalikashvili held a number of prestigious commands. He served as commander of the 9th Infantry Division and was the commander of Operation Provide Comfort, the relief operation that returned hundreds of Kurdish refugees to Northern Iraq. His last position before being named Chairman of the Joint Chiefs was as Supreme Allied Commander, Europe and Commander in Chief, European Command.

During the tenure of General Shalikashvili as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, there was an explosion in the number of military operations conducted by the Armed Forces of the United States, in such diverse areas of the world as Haiti, Bosnia, the Taiwan Straits, Kuwait, the Korean Peninsula and in and around the Arabian Peninsula. While most of these operations were peacekeeping or humanitarian in nature, a significant number of them were strike or deterrent operations.

Among the General's many accomplishments as Chairman have included NATO enlargement, the Partnership for Peace, the North Korean Nuclear Framework Agreement, new defense arrangements with Japan including revision of the status of Okinawa, as well as many projects concerning the Gulf States and Israel.

One of the last accomplishments of the General's tenure was the production of the Quadrennial Defense Review [QDR]. The QDR began the serious solution of the biggest hole in our defense program: the \$20 billion modernization shortfall. With personnel reduction and cuts in aircraft and other programs, the Chairman has reduced roughly half of the shortfall and has laid the groundwork for the reduction of the remainder.

In short, as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Shalikashvili confronted historic change, responded to nontraditional military missions and prepared America's Armed Forces for the challenge of the 21st century. General Shalikashvili's extraordinary service

has brought great credit upon himself, the Armed Forces, the Department of Defense, and the Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to place in the RECORD the remarks of Senator MAX CLELAND (D-GA) regarding the General's retirement. The Senator is also a cochairman of the National Security Caucus and is well known as a hero of the Vietnam war.

STATEMENT OF SENATOR MAX CLELAND

I am honored to be here to pay tribute to an outstanding American who exemplifies the highest of American ideals. Many Americans admire him for overcoming the tragedy of World War II by coming to the United States and fulfilling the American dream. Others praise him for the outstanding leadership he has shown over the past four years.

Indeed, the military has faced many challenges over the past several years. General Shalikashvili's efforts, however, have insured that the military has not only met each of these challenges but has excelled.

While I share these sentiments, as a Vietnam veteran, I am particularly proud of the fact that one of my comrades has led the Department. Those American soldiers who lived through the Vietnam era and its aftermath understand what soldiering is really about. They understand the meaning of sacrifice.

They understand what a national defense really means. That without one cold, hungry, scared 19-year-old soldier being willing to leave his foxhole and advance we have no national defense.

General Shalikashvili understands these principles. He learned them when he was a young child, a child who witnessed the horrors of war in Europe and returned there as an adult to lead the military of the world's foremost defender of freedom and democracy. General Shalikashvili did just that when he served as the Commander-in-Chief of the United States' European Command, a leader of all NATO forces.

I am extremely proud of the service he has rendered to the United States. We owe him a tremendous debt of gratitude for a job well done.

General, God bless you and your family on your retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 30, 1997*

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, on September 24, 1997, I was recorded as voting "yea" and then as voting "nay" on ordering the previous question for the Treasury-Postal appropriation bill, a vote which has been described as a referendum on the 2.3-percent cost of living adjustment (COLA) for Members of Congress.

The purpose of this statement is to set the record straight on my actions. I came into the Chamber with virtually no time remaining. Mistakenly, I inserted my card in "yes."

Once I ascertained that the vote was indeed a pay raise, I went immediately and corrected my vote to "nay." This "nay" vote was in accordance with my previous position on the cost of living increase for Members of Congress. Since 1993, I have voted against every cost of living increase.

When I first walked onto the floor, there were already 218 votes in favor of the measure. In other words, the COLA had already passed and my vote would have had no effect

on the outcome. Therefore, correcting my vote to "no" could not and should not be seen as doing anything other than rectifying a mistake.

Furthermore, since early last week, I was working out ways to donate this COLA increase to charities in New York. I always intended to oppose this pay raise, as I have done in the past, and had fully intended to donate the money if the pay raise was foisted upon me.

Mr. Speaker, I insert the following:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
*Washington, DC, September 26, 1997.*

Mr. JOSEPH LELYVELD  
*Executive Editor, The New York Times, New York, NY.*

DEAR MR. LELYVELD: May we add some detail to your report on Representative Charles Schumer's vote against the congressional pay raise.

This past week on the House floor, House Democrats have had multiple procedural motions designed to pressure the Republican Leadership on the need to bring campaign finance reform to the House floor. The vote on Wednesday, September 25th was a recorded vote to move the previous question. Representative Charles Schumer rushed onto the House floor with little if any time left on the voting clock. As he was pulling out his voting card from his wallet, a veteran member of Congress shouted from the back, "This is a 'yes' vote," and Mr. Schumer used the machine to vote 'aye.' Mr. Gejdenson came up the aisle and advised him that, in fact, this was not a procedural vote without meaning but was the vote on the congressional pay raise. Mr. Schumer was in obvious distress that he had voted contrary to his wishes. He rushed immediately to the front of the House and changed his vote from 'aye' to 'no,' thereby voting against the pay raise.

Sincerely,

VIC SNYDER,  
Member of Congress.  
SAM GEJDENSON,  
Member of Congress.

TRIBUTE TO MAJ. BRYAN A.  
KNIGHT

**HON. ROBERT L. EHRLICH, JR.**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 30, 1997*

Mr. EHRLICH. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in honor of an American pilot whose quick thinking, skill, and tremendous courage saved hundreds of my constituents' lives.

On September 14, 1997, Maj. Bryan A. Knight, flying his F-117A fighter, participated in the Middle River air show near the Martin State airport. As he commenced his flyby, part of the plane's wing came off, causing the aircraft to spin helplessly in the air. As the plane began to disintegrate around him, Major Knight—demonstrating the excellent training and instincts every pilot must have—stayed with the plane until he has steered it away from the throng of spectators on the ground. He ejected at the last possible moment, only about 1,000 feet from the ground. While the crash caused some property damage, no one was injured or killed.

Major Knight, who holds a degree in mathematics from the University of Texas, earned his pilot's wings on April 1, 1987. He is currently assigned to the 7th fighter squadron as an instructor pilot. His decorations include